

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-10 SS-15 STR-08 CEA-02 PA-03

USIA-15 PRS-01 H-03 /156 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:EESEGALL:RTS

7/20/73 EXT 21070

APPROVED BY EUR/EE:JAARMITAGE

EUR/EE:EHURWITZ

EUR/EE:RGJOHNSON

EUR/EE:JABAKER

COMM/BEWT:RSEVERANCE

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R 211603Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BU

SUBJECT: LUKANOV VISIT

REF: A. STATE 140326, B. STATE 141223, C. 141986

1. REFTELS REPORT SUBSTANCE OF CONVERSATIONS LUKANOV HAS HAD IN DEPARTMENT WITH UNDER SECRETARY CASEY, ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY SPRINGSTEEN AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMITAGE. MEMCONS ARE BEING PREPARED ON MEETINGS HE HAD WITH COMMERCE OFFICIALS (UNDER SECRETARY TABOR, ASSISTANT SECRETARY DOBBIN AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LAZARUS), EXIMBANK CHAIRMAN KEARNS, TREASURY OFFICIALS, AND SENATOR EAGLETON.

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2. LUKANOV ALSO MET SENATORS MOSS AND CANNON AND REPRESENTATIVE DERWINSKI DURING RECEPTION GIVEN BY AMBASSADOR ZDRAVCHEV AT WASHINGTON-HILTON. DINNER PARTY GIVEN BY TABOR AT ANDERSON HOUSE WAS OTHER LARGE SOCIAL FUNCTION PROVIDING OPPORTUNITY FOR LUKANOV AND MEMBERS OF HIS DELEGATION TO DISCUSS ISSUES WITH USG OFFICIALS THAT NEED TO BE RESOLVED IN PROCESS OF NORMALIZING TRADE AND OTHER RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND BULGARIA.

3. BEFORE LEAVING WASHINGTON ON JULY 18 LUKANOV AND OTHER MEMBERS OF DELEGATION EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR RECEPTION THEY RECEIVED DURING TWO DAYS OF DISCUSSIONS HERE. LUKANOV DESCRIBED VISIT AS MOST PLEASANT AND USEFUL. HE "FELT CERTAIN" THAT VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND IN MAJOR CITIES AROUND COUNTRY WOULD BE A FIRST STEP IN IMPROVING TRADE AND OTHER RELATIONS BETWEEN BULGARIA AND THE US. HE HOPED VISIT WOULD HAVE GREATER IMPRINT ON THESE RELATIONS THAN DID 1968 VISIT OF HIS PREDECESSOR, DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE PENKOV (MOMENTUM OF WHICH DISAPPEARED WITH SOVIET INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN AUGUST).

4. LUKANOV AND DELEGATION VISITED WINSTON-SALEM ON JULY 18 AND DEPARTED FOR SAN FRANCISCO THAT EVENING TO BEGIN SWING AROUND COUNTRY INCLUDING VISITS TO BANKS AND FIRMS IN SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES, CHICAGO AND NEW YORK. GROUP IS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE N.Y. FOR CANADA ON JULY 28.

5. EMIL KHRISTOV, ADVISER TO ZIVKOV ON GOVERNMENTAL ADMINISTRATION, IS ACCOMPANYING LUKANOV ON SWING AROUND COUNTRY. DEPARTMENT IS PREPARING SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR HIS STAY IN US DURING LAST WEEK OF JULY. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE143912
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EESEGALL:RTS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730718/aaaaamwv.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 A. STATE 140326, B. STATE 141223
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LUKANOV VISIT
TAGS: PFOR, BU
To: SOFIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005